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February 18, 2004

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary Department of Telecommunications and Energy One South Station Boston, MA 02110

Re: <u>Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 03-100</u>

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter is the Motion for Withdrawal of Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric (the "Company").

The Company has been authorized to represent that the following parties do not object to the withdrawal of this case: the Attorney General of the Commonwealth, the Division of Energy Resources, the Cape Light Compact, Conservation Law Foundation and the Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert N. Werlin

Enclosures

cc: William Stevens, Hearing Officer

Service List

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

)	
Boston Edison Company)	
Cambridge Electric Light Company)	D.T.E. 03-100
Commonwealth Electric Company)	
)	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon the Department of Telecommunications and parties of record in accordance with the requirements of 220 C.M.R. 1.05 (Department's Rules of Practice and Procedures).

Robert N. Werlin

Keegan, Werlin & Pabian, LLP

265 Franklin Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02110

(617) 951-1400

Dated: February 18, 2004

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

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Boston Edison Company/)
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Commonwealth Electric Company)
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D.T.E. 03-100

MOTION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF INITIAL FILING

On October 16, 2003, Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company, d/b/a NSTAR Electric ("NSTAR Electric" or the "Company") filed a request (the "Initial Filing") with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (the "Department") to approve a new renewable power offering for the Company's customers, <u>i.e.</u>, NSTAR Green. On December 11, 2003, the Department held a public hearing seeking comments on the Initial Filing.

As stated in the Initial Filing, NSTAR Green is a voluntary program designed to provide an option for the Company's residential, small commercial and small industrial customers to enhance their electricity service through the purchase of a renewable offering. The Company proposed to offer NSTAR Green because no such service is currently being offered through the competitive market for residential and small commercial and industrial customers in the NSTAR Electric service territories.

However, there are a number of market uncertainties that has caused NSTAR Electric to question whether the time is right to go forward with this program at this time. For example, there is high demand for Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs") by retail electricity providers in order to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Renewable Portfolio Standard ("RPS") for 2004. The implementation of NSTAR Green at this time would increase this demand for RECs, thereby contributing to the depletion of available RECs to meet the RPS. Moreover, the expiration of standard offer service in February

2005, changes in wholesale pricing rules and developments in competitive markets for generation services create significant market uncertainty that would complicate the

design and implementation of renewable service offerings.

renewables program at a later date.

Until some of these issues are clarified, NSTAR Electric believes that it would be appropriate to defer implementation of a new renewables program. Accordingly, NSTAR Electric has decided not to pursue implementation of NSTAR Green at this time. The Company will continue to monitor the development of the REC market, both at the wholesale and retail level, and determine whether and when to resubmit for approval of a

WHEREFORE, pursuant to 220 C.M.R. 1.04(4)(b), the Company hereby moves to withdraw the request to approve NSTAR Green filed on October 16, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSTON EDISON COMPANY CAMBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC COMPANY

By Its Attorneys,

Robert N. Werlin, Esq.

John K. Habib, Esq.

Keegan, Werlin & Pabian, LLP

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Dated: February 18, 2004